

REMARKS

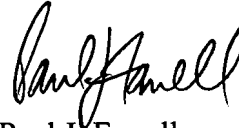
The Examiner has stated that the claims of the present application contain distinct and separately usable subcombinations and is requiring restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-23, drawn to the Processing of address header for routing, per se: Subject matter having details of techniques or apparatus which process the address information field for switching the packet of information. Wherein information data to be switched is organized with one or more bytes preceded by an identification information indicative of a source or destination station. Classified in class 370, subclass 392.
- II. Claims 24-26 drawn to the Using messages having an address field as header: Subject matter in which information data is organized in one or more bytes preceded by an identifier indicative of source or destination stations. Subject matter wherein information signals are communicated between stations by assembling or separating the signals via different time periods on a common transmission medium. Classified in class 370, subclass 349.

Prior to entry of this amendment, Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. Claims 1-26 were the subject of a Restriction Requirement. In response to this Office Action, Applicants respectfully elect Group I without traverse for prosecution in this case, containing Claims 1-23. Please cancel Claims 24-26 without prejudice. It is respectfully submitted that no new subject matter has been added by these amendments. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application to the non-elected group of claims.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below. An early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" and last name "Farrell" clearly distinguishable.

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